

A NEW SPECIES OF *NEUROLEANA* (ASTERACEAE, HELIANTHEAE)
FROM SOUTHERN MÉXICO

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ABSTRACT

A new species, *Neurolaena lamina spec. nov.*, from southern México is described and illustrated. It is closely related to *N. lobata* (L.) R. Br., but differs markedly from that species in having thin, subglabrous, nonatomiferous-glandular leaves. It is known by collections from southern Veracruz and adjacent eastern Oaxaca.

KEY WORDS: *Neurolaena*, Asteraceae, Heliantheae. México.

Routine identification of Mexican Asteraceae has revealed a new species of *Neurolaena*. In my revisionary treatment of that genus (Turner 1982), ten species were recognized. Subsequently, an additional species, *N. wendtii* B.L. Turner was added (Turner 1985). The present novelty brings the number of species to twelve.

Neurolaena lamina B.L. Turner, *spec. nov.* (Figure 1). TYPE: MÉXICO. Veracruz: Mpio. Catemaco. en las estribaciones de las montañas de Sta. Marta, ca. 11 km de un camino de terracería que une la población de Tebanca con Bastonal, 800 m, 18 Mar 1988, O. Juárez M. 37 (HOLOTYPE: TEX!; Isotypes: CHAPA, to be distributed).

N. lobatae (L.) R. Br. similis sed foliis multo tenuibus integris eglandulatis tantum hispidis differt.

Suffruticose herbs or shrubs 1-2 m high. Stems terete but somewhat angulate, hispidulous. Leaves 15-26 cm long, 4-7 cm wide, pinnately nerved, very thin, serrulate to entire or nearly so; petioles 1-3 cm long, gradually tapering into the blades; blades ovate-elliptical, sparsely appressed hispid on both surfaces, more so along the major veins, trichomes on the upper surface often with



FIG. 1 NEUROLAEA LAMINA. FROM HOLOTYPE.

broad callous bases. Heads eradiate, 20-numerous, arranged in terminal clusters as in *Neurolaena lobata*. Involucres campanulate, 6-7 mm high, 3-5 mm wide; bracts 5-6 seriate, evenly imbricate, linear spatulate, yellowish, glabrous or nearly so, with broadly rounded scarious apices (except for the outermost bracts, which are much reduced, mostly acute, and sparsely hispid). Florets 16-20, the corollas yellow, 4.5-5.0 mm long, the tube ca. 1.5 mm long, the lobes ca. 0.4 mm long. Achenes ca. 2 mm long, hispidulous, the pappus of 50-60 white ciliate bristles, 4-5 mm long.

Additional specimen examined: MÉXICO. Oaxaca: Mpio. Sta. María Chimalapa, Río Negro, ca. 1 km S Paso Napajo-ua, 13 km S Sta. María (16° 51' N x 94° 40' N), 250 m, selva alta con *Calophyllum*, *Dialium*, *Spondias*, *Brosimum*, etc., suelos cafe-spardos, pedregosos o profundas con mucha hojarasca, 15 Feb 1985, H. Hernández G. 858 (CHAPA, TEX).

The species is clearly related to *Neurolaena lobata*, possessing a very similar capitulescence with similar heads. It differs, however, in having very thin, smooth, eglandular, unlobed leaves; the involucral bracts also differ in being essentially glabrous with broad rounded apices.

In leaf shape, venation, and texture, this taxon differs radically from all collections of *Neurolaena lobata* known to me, the taxon with which it is most likely to be confused. *Neurolaena lamina* has leaves very much like *N. intermedia* Rydb., a poorly known species of Guatemala. In my treatment (Turner 1982), the present species will key to the latter, but can be readily distinguished by its larger heads (6-8 mm across vs. 10-12 mm across); otherwise, the two taxa are very similar.

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LITERATURE CITED

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